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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-seventh year

Letter dated 15 December 1992 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I enclose a copy of the Declaration on the Middle East Peace Process made by the Council of Ministers of the European Communities at its meeting in Edinburgh on 11 and 12 December 1992 (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 30 and 35, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) D. H. A. HANNAY

ANNEX

Declaration on the Middle East Peace Process made by the Council of Ministers of the European Communities at its meeting in Edinburgh on 11 and 12 December 1992

The European Council reiterates its full support for the Middle East Peace Process in both its bilateral and multilateral aspects, and the role of the co-sponsors. It welcomes the commitment to the process of the incoming administration in the United States. The European Community will continue to play an active and constructive part in the process in accordance with its positions of principle on the basis for a just, lasting and comprehensive settlement.

The European Council is convinced that such a settlement is in the interests of Israel and its neighbours, of the Palestinians, and the Middle East region as a whole. The current peace process represents a great opportunity which must be seized if dangers to the stability of the region are to be avoided. The European Council calls on all parties concerned to press ahead with the negotiations constructively.

The European Council stresses the importance of assuring respect for human rights and of implementing confidence-building measures as a means of increasing the level of trust between the parties and taking the negotiations forward.